

MORGAN BRAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

PUBLIC USE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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PUBLIC USE REQUIREMENTS  
INFORMAL REVIEW FORM

Instructions: Fill in blanks and attach to Public Use Development Plan

District/Zone 4 Station Name Morgan Brake NWR Station Number 43582

Requirements	Requirement Compliance? (Yes, No, N/A)	\$ Cost Estimate to Meet Requirement (only if "No" compliance)
1. Set station public use goals	<u>Yes</u>	<u>\$</u>
2. Project a positive attitude	<u>Yes</u>	<u>\$</u>
3. Welcome and orient visitors	<u>Yes</u>	<u>\$</u>
4. Develop key resources awareness	<u>No</u>	<u>\$ 8,000.</u>
5. Provide observation opportunities	<u>No</u>	<u>\$ 7,000.</u>
6. Provide teacher assistance	<u>No</u>	<u>\$ 5,000.</u>
7. Maintain quality hunting program	<u>Yes</u>	<u>\$</u>
8. Maintain quality fishing program	<u>Yes</u>	<u>\$</u>
9. Manage cultural resources	<u>N/A</u>	<u>\$</u>
10. Explore public assistance opportunities for field station operations	<u>No</u>	<u>\$ 2,000.</u>

\* Compliance must be filled in on all Public Use Requirements as one of the following:

- Yes - Requirement category has been met.
- No - Requirement category has not been met.
- N/A - Requirement category is not applicable to this station.

\$ Funds estimated as necessary to meet the category requirement.  
(Listed for "No" only)

PUBLIC USE DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
FOR MORGAN BRAKE  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
CHAPTER 1. PUBLIC USE GOALS

National Public Use Requirement #1: SET STATION PUBLIC USE GOALS

The goals for each public use function at Morgan Brake National Wildlife Refuge are as follows:

A. Interpretation

Interpret refuge management activities and how they benefit wildlife and/or public recreation.

B. Outdoor Classrooms

Do not initiate any refuge environmental education efforts.

C. Educational Assistance

Provide support material to local educators to facilitate use of established study areas.

D. Program Information

Provide through verbal and printed communication, information concerning refuge programs, regulations, and activities of public interest and concern.

E. Fish and Wildlife/Wildlands-Oriented Recreation

Provide opportunities for consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife/wildlands-oriented recreation compatible with refuge objectives and goals.

F. Non-Fish and Wildlife-Oriented Recreation

There is no non-fish and wildlife use planned.

G. Dedicated Areas/Cultured Resources

Protect and preserve any future archaeological or historical sites found on the refuge.

## CHAPTER 2. PUBLIC RELATIONS

### National Public Use Requirement #2: PROJECT A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

#### Present Conditions

- A. At present all refuge employees should be able to answer questions concerning the refuge. If this is not possible, the information will be obtained from others and relayed to the visitor as quickly as possible.
- B. Refuge employees wear the prescribed uniform as directed in 3 AM 3.
- C. Copies of material published or broadcast will be kept on file.

#### Improvements Needed

- A. New employees will be given a briefing on refuge programs and policies during their initial orientation. A packet with refuge information will be developed for new employees.
- B. Present programs dealing with the refuge and its management to any interested conservation or civic organization.

## CHAPTER 3. VISITOR WELCOME AND ORIENTATION

### National Public Use Requirement #3: WELCOME AND ORIENT VISITORS

#### Present Conditions

- A. Major entrance signs list the opportunities available on the refuge.
- B. A kiosk will serve as an information point for visitors.

#### Improvements Needed

- A. Post the hours the refuge will open to the public near all major and minor entrances to the refuge.
- B. Update refuge leaflet and map, include roads and trails.
- C. Develop slide program for public viewing.
- D. Establish an Outdoor Recreation Planner position.

## CHAPTER 4. INTERPRETATION

### National Public Use Requirement #4: DEVELOP KEY RESOURCES AWARENESS

#### Present Conditions

- A. The general leaflet accurately reflects refuge program, and opportunities.
- B. Environmental education programs are considered a low priority.

#### Improvements Needed

- A. Establish an Outdoor Recreation Planner position.
- B. Develop a leaflet of highlights for Morgan Brake.

## CHAPTER 5. NON-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

### National Public Use Requirement #5: PROVIDE OBSERVATION OPPORTUNITIES

#### Present Conditions

- A. Chance observaitons, of wildlife including white-tailed deer, wading birds and raptors as you drive along the perimeter of the refuge.
- B. A list of mammals and birds is available upon request.

#### Improvements Needed

- A. Develop a "Calendar of Wildlife Events".
- B. Establish an observation trail as public use increases.

## CHAPTER 6. TEACHER ASSISTANCE

### National Public Use Requirement #6: PROVIDE TEACHER ASSISTANCE

#### Present Condition

No Activity

#### Improvements Needed

- A. Acquaint the public with the refuge and what it has to offer through handouts to educators and the general public.
- B. Establish an Outdoor Recreation Planner position.

## CHAPTER 7. CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION - HUNTING

### National Public Use Requirement #7: MAINTAIN QUALITY HUNTING PROGRAMS

#### Present Conditions

- A. Hunting is allowed on the refuge. Deer hunting and duck hunting are among the favorites.
- B. Annual hunting proposals are prepared on each refuge and approved by the Department of Wildlife Conservation.

#### Improvements Needed

- A. Establish means of collecting biological data for refuge files.
- B. Post "closed areas".
- C. Limit seasons and areas that specific wildlife species can be hunted.
- D. Establish an Outdoor Recreation Planner position and a Law Enforcement Technician position.

## CHAPTER 8. CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION - FISHING

### National Public Use Requirement #8: MAINTAIN QUALITY FISHING PROGRAM

#### Present Conditions

Sloughs, streams, beaver impoundments and other refuge wetlands provide a limited amount of fish habitat on the refuge. Fish common to the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers may be found on the refuge.

#### Improvements Needed

- A. Update fishing brochure.
- B. Provide adequate access to various areas of water that are suitable for fishing.

## CHAPTER 9. DEDICATED AREAS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

### National Public Use Requirement #9: MANAGE CULTURAL RESOURCES

#### Present Conditions

No Activity.

#### Improvements Needed

A. Maintain any cultural resources found on the refuge.

## CHAPTER 10. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

### National Public Use Requirement #10: EXPLORE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FIELD STATION OPERATIONS

#### Present Conditions

No Activity.

#### Improvements Needed

A. Recruit volunteers for manning check stations during hunting season.